(8) were not similar contracts for extraction of marked trees in other places put up for auction, namely, Vellani, Kurisumudi, etc., and what was the rate per candy realised by the Government there ;

(9) the reason prompting the Conservator of Forests to put up this monopoly alone for tender in spite of many petitions and complaints ;

(10) has not the timber collected by the previous contractors been left unmeasured up till now ; if so, the reasons for the same ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—The Member is referred to the answer to question No. 324.

Sale of Saplings.

326. **Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of saplings sold in acution in 1103 from the Palappali teak plantations and the amount realised by the sale;

(b) for the collection of how many saplings were tenders called for ;

(c) (i) were 207 teak saplings sold at 2 annas each and were tenders invited for its collection and sale ; (ii) what was the amount spent for the collection of the same ;

(d) the total number of saplings of the nature referred to in (c) above, collected and sold without tenders in 1103 in Palappalli and the names of the persons purchased and the collection charges for each set ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(a) 2,228 saplings were sold in auction for Rs. 13,858.

(b) For 2,192 saplings.

(c) (i) No. (ii) Nil.

(d) 161 discarded saplings. These discarded saplings were below 3 vannams and which were felled and left at the stumps were sold to the felling contractor K. Govindan Nayar at Re. 0—2—0 each. No collection charges were paid for the above 161 saplings.

Areas for Plantation.

327. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) are there any areas selected for plantation in the current year to be planted departmentally or by contractors, and if so, under what conditions and terms ;

(2) whether any petitions have been received from persons for giving them areas for plantation in Palappalli side, if so, from whom all ;

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(3) were any areas selected by the Plantation Ranger Mr. C. Govinda Menon and recommended by him to the Conservator of Forests to be given to any particular person in Karkadagam or Mithunam 1103, if so, to whom, and a copy of the Ranger's report and Conservator's orders on the recommendation of the Plantation Ranger may be placed on the Table ;

(4) was the Southern Divisional Forest Officer, who is the officer responsible for selecting areas, consulted before passing orders, if not, why not ;

(5) has subsequently the Southern Divisional Forest Officer reported on the same, and if so, a copy of his report and orders of the Conservator of Forests may be placed on the Table ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(1) No areas selected.

(2) No.

(3) No.

(4) and (5). In view of the replies to 1, 2 and 3 above these questions do not arise.

328. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether there are any areas selected for plantation in the current year to be planted departmentally or by contractors at their own cost in return of the removal of forest growth in the area and on payment of seigniorage and removing the timber ;

(2) whether petitions have been received from persons for giving them areas for plantation in Palappalli side ; if so, from whom ;

(3) were any areas selected by the Plantation Ranger recommended by him to the Conservator of Forests to be given to any particular person ; if so, to whom and what was the Ranger's report about this and what were the Conservator's orders on the recommendation of the Plantation Ranger ;

(4) was the Southern Divisional Forest Officer, who is the officer responsible for selecting the areas, consulted before passing orders, if not, why not ;

(5) has the Southern Divisional Forest Officer subsequently reported on the same; if so, what was his report and what are the orders of the Conservator of Forests on the same ?

(6) will the Conservator of Forests be directed to inspect the area mentioned above and put in his report ?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(1), (2), (3),(4) and (5). The Member is referred to answer to question No. 327.

(6) No answer is necessary in view of the reply to subdivisions above.

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